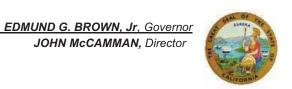
Agenda Item: 4b

Meeting Date: March 24-25, 2011

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## **CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Proposal Solicitation Package**

The deadline for the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Proposal Solicitation Package (ERP PSP) closed on March 1. The geographic area of interest for this PSP is the CALFED Bay-Delta, which includes the Sacramento and San Joaquin River watersheds and the San Francisco Bay and Estuary. There is a focus on projects located in the Delta and Suisun Marsh. Priorities for the awards are:

- Restoration projects that restore or enhance aquatic habitat in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Suisun Marsh and Bay;
- Research projects that test hypotheses identified in the DRERIP evaluation of the BDCP conservation measures and National Research Council's OCAP Biological Opinion Review and addresses uncertainties; and
- Projects that include construction of facilities to 1) control waste discharges
  that contribute to low dissolved oxygen and other water quality problems in
  the lower San Joaquin River and South Delta and 2) control drainage from
  abandoned mines that adversely affect water quality in the Bay-Delta.

The ERP received 31 proposals in response to its 2010-11 PSP requesting over \$31 million in funding. Four of these projects were forwarded to us from the Delta Science Program as they were projects that were submitted to the Delta Science Program's PSP, but were not funded. Because the projects addressed priorities identified for this PSP, it seemed appropriate to move them into this process.

DFG has approximately \$20 million available to fund projects from different propositions. These include Propositions 13 and 84. Approximately half of the funds are from Proposition 13 and are restricted to projects that construct facilities to 1) control waste discharges that contribute to low dissolved oxygen and other water quality problems in the lower San Joaquin River and South Delta and 2) control drainage from abandoned mines that adversely affect water quality in the Bay-Delta.

The process and anticipated schedule for the ERP PSP includes:

- Administrative and Responsiveness Review (completed)
- Regional Reviews focused on determining which projects support Regional priorities for the ERP Implementing Agencies (underway)
- External Technical Reviews (underway)
- Selection Panel meeting (targeting June 1, 2, 3)
- Delta Stewardship Council update (June meeting)
- DFG Director announces awards (early July)

Questions on the ERP PSP should be directed to Carol Atkins (916-445-0074).